

Message Text

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43

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 NEA-10 IO-15 EB-11 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15 AGR-20 COME-00

DRC-01 /157 W

----- 078586

R 271215Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9385

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1767

NAIROBI FOR USAID AND REDSO/EA

MBABANE FOR OSARAC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, EAGR, ZA

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE - INTERNATIONAL RED LOCUST CONTROL

REF: (A) LUSAKA 1746; (B) MBABANE 1732

SUMMARY: BRITISH CONSIDERING REQUEST FOR PILOT AND GROUND
MECHANIC FOR INTERNATIONAL RED LOCUST CONTROL SERVICE FORCE
(IRLCSF). UNDP TEAM PLANNING RECOMMEND UNDP FUND SCIENTIFIC
SUPPORT FOR IRLCSF PLUS PILOT TO ASSIST TRAINING. IN VIEW
MULTIPLE APPROACHES FOR ASSISTANCE AND GENERAL WILLINGNESS TO
HELP, RECOMMEND COORDINATING IRLCSF ASSISTANCE WITH UK AND UNDP,
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END SUMMARY.

1. UK FIRST SEC HERDMAN (IN CHARGE OF ASSISTANCE) TOLD EMB HMG CONSIDERING SYMPATHETICALLY IRLCSF REQUEST FOR PILOT AND GROUND MECHANIC, BUT HAVING DIFFICULTY ROUNDING UP SUITABLE CANDIDATES. CONFIRMED STORY ORIGINAL EXPAT PILOTS RESIGNED EN MASSE AFTER NUMEROUS BRUSHES WITH ZAMBIAN AIR FORCE AT MBALA, AND WELCOMED U.S. REVIEW OF PROBLEM, SINCE UK CROP DUSTING SKILLS NOT RPT NOT THOSE REQUIRED FOR ZAMBIA/TANZANIA. THOUGHT NEED GREAT ENOUGH FOR MULTIDONOR PROJECT TO ASSURE MINIMUM NECESSARY TRAINED PERSONNEL. SAID OWN EXPERIENCE IN KENYA IN 1970'S CONVINCED HIM OF NECESSITY MAINTAIN LOCUST CONTROL CAPABILITY.

2. UNDP CONSULTANT TEAM OF S.S. PRUTHI, FAO REGIONAL LOCUST CONTROL ADVISER IN TEHRAN, AND PROF WILLIAM EDEN, CHAIRMAN OF DEPT OF ENTOMOLOGY, UNIV OF FLORIDA, RETURNED SEPT 27 FROM TWO-DAY VISIT IRLCSF CENTER AT MBALA. EDEN TOLD EMBOFF HE IMPRESSED WITH IRLCSF PERSONNEL, ESPECIALLY DIRECTOR ABASA, AND TEAM WOULD PROBABLY RECOMMEND ORIGINALLY PROPOSED THREE-YEAR SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM TO PROVIDE LOCUST SPECIALIST, GROUND SCIENTIST, AND SOME EQUIPMENT TO IRLCSF, PLUS EMERGENCY FUNDING EXPERIENCED PILOT FOR ONE YEAR TO TRAIN AFRICAN PILOTS (REF A). TOTAL WOULD BE DOLS 248,000. EDEN SAID IRLCSF HAS FOUR GOOD AIRCRAFT--ONE HELO, TWO CESSNAS, ONE PIPER--AND ONE INADEQUATELY TRAINED PILOT. NEED TWO MORE PILOTS AND AT LEAST ONE GROUND ENGINEER. EDEN ADDED MAINTENANCE LOCUST CONTROL CAPACITY IMPERATIVE PROTECT AGRICULTURE. THOUGHT IRLCSF COULD DO JOB IF IT GOT REQUIRED TECHNICAL HELP. PRESENT IRLCSF BUDGET DOLS 205,000 ADEQUATE AND INCLUDES AT LEAST ONE BASIC PILOT SALARY. EDEN ADDED UNDP EFFORT, IF UNDERTAKEN, MIGHT NOT MOVE QUICKLY ENOUGH TO HELP MUCH OVER NEAR TERM. EMBASSY PREPARED EDEN BRIEF USUN UPON RETURN NEW YORK.

3. WILLINGNESS UK AND UNDP ASSIST IRLCSF ENCOURAGING, BUT COORDINATION OBVIOUSLY NEEDED. APPEARS PROJECT WOULD QUALIFY FOR AFRICAN REGIONAL FUNDING (REF B) AND ALSO BE MULTIDONOR EFFORT. LOCAL UNDP OFFICE BELIEVES U.S. BEST SOURCE TYPE OF PILOTS NEEDED, REGARDLESS WHO EVENTUALLY FUNDS THEM. PERHAPS DEPT AGRICULTURE MIGHT BE ABLE PROVIDE NAMES OR SOURCE PILOT CANDIDATES. REGIONAL LOCUST CONTROL EFFORT APPEARS CLEARLY WORTHY USG SUPPORT.

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4. FOR USUN: REFTELS BEING REPEATED TO YOU.
NELSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 27 SEP 1973
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Disposition Reason:
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Executive Order: GS NELSON
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